

# Monday Bulletin on Services to Youth

To Coordinate... To Enhance... To Serve... Through Communication...

## New Fact Sheets from ODEP

The Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) has added several new or updated fact sheets on the following subjects: mentoring, disability data and research resources, interviewing tips for job candidates with disabilities, recruiting employees with disabilities, and an overview of the Job Accommodation Network.

These fact sheets, as well as previous ODEP publications, are available in PDF and html formats at [www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/publicat.htm](http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/publicat.htm)

## New Freedom Initiative Website

The President's New Freedom Initiative has developed a user friendly disability website that has links to governmental agencies and many non-profit organizations. People with disabilities, their advocates, and professionals can search by topic. The general topics are employment, health, transportation, housing, civil rights, benefits, technology, and community life.

[www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=137](http://www.disabilityinfo.gov/digov-public/public/DisplayPage.do?parentFolderId=137)

## Michigan Rehabilitation Services 2005 Transition Summary

In FY 2005, the Youth Services & Community Alliances unit was headed by Rosanne Renauer and staffed by Lynn Boza. Leading the entire division is Sandra Peck, Division Director. Accomplishments and activities related to Transition and their impact upon Michigan Rehabilitation Services and its customers are outlined below.

### Participated at the national level:

Michigan Rehabilitation Service's (MRS) Division Director Sandra Peck represented MRS at the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition's June 2005 National Leadership Summit. The Michigan Department of Education/ Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (MDE-OSE/EIS) and other state level partners participated in the summit.

MRS was also represented at the Rehabilitation Services Administration's First National Transition Conference in June 2005. Deputy Director, Bettie Shaw-Henderson, participated in the State Roundtable, and a Macomb County team led by Manager Jennie Tunnell, presented "A Collaborative Project for Students Who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing" at the conference.

### Partnered at the state level:

MRS Division Director Sandra Peck worked with MDE-OSE/EIS' Core Planning Team throughout the year on Transition issues, including identification of useful models, supporting research and joint planning.

By participating in the Core Planning Team and Michigan's Transition Outcome Project (TOP) initiative, we...

- Promoted local MRS involvement at state TOP meetings and in local report out meetings
- Participated in a national TOP IEP checklist review to improve quality of IEP throughout Michigan
- Initiated planning for joint workshop between MRS and MDE-OSE/EIS on IDEIA 2004

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**Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth- Michigan Rehabilitation Services**  
Archive issues are at our web site: [www2.mrs.state.mi.us/transtions](http://www2.mrs.state.mi.us/transtions)

# Michigan Rehabilitation Services

## 2005 Transition Summary Continued

### Supported funding for Transition in local communities

Through partnership and resource development with the Michigan Department of Education- Office of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (MDE-OSE) we ...

- Supported MDE-OSE/EIS Transition Grant funding, totaling \$4,465,000 to local communities
- Assessed the quality and effectiveness of grant-funded programs by reviewing Transition Grant proposals and final reports from Michigan's 57 Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) and three state agencies serving youth, and made recommendations about future funding

### Improved service delivery strategies and techniques at the Post Secondary level

- Developed and implemented a statewide agreement with Michigan State University for new services for student-customers with learning disabilities
- Created a memorandum of understanding with institutions of higher education

### Improved outcomes for adjudicated youth with disabilities by implementing a seamless system to help adjudicated youth with disabilities successfully re-enter the community

Working collaboratively with an interagency team (Department of Human Services' Bureau of Juvenile Justice (DHS/BJJ), Department of Labor & Economic Growth--Michigan Rehabilitation Services (DLEG/MRS), Michigan Protection & Advocacy Services, & a local probate court we....

- Designed, developed and conducted two advanced interagency workshops for DHS/BJJ & MRS staff about provisions of the agreement, the seamless referral system and other community resources
- Featured newly included information about the Department of Mental Health and Community Mental Health Services, and services

from Michigan Works! Agencies in the workshops

- Began building judicial awareness and education into the network
- Supported statewide cash match and evaluation processes
- Supported effort of Wayne County MRS to establish a transition coordinator position at the Maxey Training School by funding a partnership agreement covering salary
- Supported assignment of five specific MRS counselors to serve as liaisons with the five state BJJ training schools
- Oriented new staff in respective organizations about the MRS/BJJ relationship.

### Collaborated with Michigan Commission for the Blind and MDE-OSE/EIS to implement the USDOL Office of Disability Employment Policy High School High Tech model for students with disabilities

This project is called MiConnections in Michigan; implementing this grant, we....

- Increased the number of local sites adopting the "high school high tech" model
- Launched the MiConnections website ([www.miconnections.org](http://www.miconnections.org))
- Developed tools--starter kit, affiliate kit & program evaluation kit-- for new and existing local sites

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### Please forward or print this bulletin for others.

E-mail your contributions or ideas for "Monday Bulletin on Services to Youth" to Lynn Boza:  
[bozal@michigan.gov](mailto:bozal@michigan.gov) or call 517/241-3957.

Views expressed in Monday Bulletin articles are not necessarily the views of the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth nor Michigan Rehabilitation Services.

## Increased MRS staff knowledge & skills to provide Transition Services

- Published the Monday Bulletin, an electronic newsletter that disseminates information about transition and related educational issues
- Published “Transition Guide” for college bound students
- Conducted a pre-conference workshop for MRS staff and transition partners at the 2005 Michigan Transition Services Association conference; this workshop featured a panel representing effective Workforce Investment System partnerships at the local level with Michigan Works agencies, including a Customized Employment grant-funded initiative
- As part of the National Institute for Literacy’s Bridges to Practice program, conducted training on learning disabilities for community rehabilitation organizations and at educational conferences
- Disseminated information to MRS staff and partners about Social Security for young adults, such as access to SSI, Work Incentive programs and the Medicaid Buy-In program
- Provided GED accommodation information to MRS counselors for use with customers, using information sheets and the electronic learning system
- Conducted regional “Transition Sharing Days” (Holland & Greater Macomb)

## Identified issues related to Transition, highlighted effective programs and promoted improved service delivery strategies and techniques

We networked with professional educational and disability organizations as well as local education agencies in the following ways....

- Participated in monthly Special Education Advisory Council (SEAC) meetings and participated in relevant sub committees (MRS representation as a non-voting member of the SEAC is required by law)
- Attended monthly Michigan Transition Services Association meetings and provided MRS report to the Board; advised MRS staff about transition coordinator concerns

- Supported annual training conferences through marketing
- Participated in local Community Transition Council meetings; provided technical assistance to developing Councils (Flint, in 2005)
- Attended selected student conferences supported by Transition Grant funds
- Presented at educational conferences throughout Michigan

## Youth Services is important to Michigan Rehabilitation Services.

At the end of FY 2005, data representing youth—that is, individuals age 14-22, and 22-26 if referred by schools—served in the rehabilitation system is as follows:

Number/percentage of youth served: 16,454 / 36%

Number/percentage of youth rehabilitated: 2,056 / 29.5%

Average dollar cost per rehab ages 14-21: \$3,924

Average dollar cost per rehab ages 22-26: \$3,364

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## Read about U.S. Teens with Disabilities Going Abroad!

Mobility International USA and the National Clearinghouse on Disability and Exchange (NCDE) announces the release of its first online issue of *A World Awaits You* (AWAY), a web-based journal describing the successful experiences of individuals with disabilities in volunteer, internship, cultural and educational programs abroad. AWAY stories answer frequently asked questions and share the benefits of participating in international exchange programs. Read this issue at:

[www.miusa.org/ncde/away](http://www.miusa.org/ncde/away).

Written for a cross-disability U.S. teenage audience, each article is full of ideas and observations gained through the first hand experience of participants and answers questions such as “Why go abroad?” “Do I need to know a foreign language?” and “How do I get started in finding a program?” Readers are sure to gain insight into how to creatively manage access issues abroad and locate resources for a successful exchange so as to not miss out on amazing experiences.

*This article, and those on page one are from REFERENCE POINTS, transition updates from the TATRA Project, It is managed by PACER Center [www.pacer.org](http://www.pacer.org) as a joint technical assistance activity of the TATRA Project and the National Center on Secondary Education and Transition [www.ncset.org](http://www.ncset.org)*

## Save the Dates • Events & Training

Date	Training or Event	Location
January 23, 2006	<b>MAEPD INSTITUTE III</b> Strand 1—Strategies for Reading in the Content Areas Strand 2—GED Tests and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Removing Barriers and Increasing Opportunities Strand 4—Helping Adult ESL Learners Persist Participants are eligible for CEUs for this Institute. To register online, go to: <a href="http://www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp">www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp</a>	Radisson Hotel Kalamazoo
January 24	<b>MAEPD INSTITUTE III</b> Strand 1—Strategies for Reading in the Content Areas Strand 2—GED Tests and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Removing Barriers and Increasing Opportunities- Strand 3—Nobody Knows Until You Tell Them: Packaging Your Program's Outcomes to Build Respect & Support Strand 4—Helping Adult ESL Learners Persist Participants are eligible for CEUs for this Institute. To register online, go to: <a href="http://www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp">www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp</a>	MTEC Henry Ford Community College Dearborn
January 25	<b>MAEPD INSTITUTE III</b> Strand 1—Strategies for Reading in the Content Areas Strand 2—GED Tests and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Removing Barriers and Increasing Opportunities- Strand 3—Nobody Knows Until You Tell Them: Packaging Your Program's Outcomes to Build Respect & Support Participants are eligible for CEUs for this Institute. To register online, go to: <a href="http://www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp">www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp</a>	Holiday Inn West Lansing
January 27	<b>MAEPD INSTITUTE III</b> Strand 1—Strategies for Reading in the Content Areas Strand 2—GED Tests and Accommodations for Students with Disabilities: Removing Barriers and Increasing Opportunities Participants are eligible for CEUs for this Institute. To register online, go to: <a href="http://www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp">www.maepd.org/registration/InstituteIIIworkshop.asp</a>	MTEC Kirtland Community College Gaylord
February 14	<b>ASPERGER'S &amp; EMPLOYMENT</b> Featuring Gail Hawkins of the Hawkins Institute, Sally Burton-Hoyle of Autism Society of Michigan and Nick Dubin, M.A. Ed. relating his own experiences as an individual with Asperger Syndrome. More information and registration online at: <a href="http://www.asaoakland.org">www.asaoakland.org</a>	DeCarlo's Banquet & Convention Center 6015 E. Ten Mile Road (at Mound Rd.) Warren, MI 48091
March 15, 16 & 17, 2006	<b>MICHIGAN TRANSITION SERVICES ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE</b> <b>"THE ART OF TRANSITION"</b> Presenters and session ideas wanted. Contact Rick Conklin, MTSA Conference Chair 2006 at 906-645-5681 ext. 115 or e-mail: <a href="mailto:rconklin@exp.k12.mi.es">rconklin@exp.k12.mi.es</a>	Bavarian Inn, Frankenmuth